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Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00
INRE-00 USIE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 EPG-02 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04
ITC-01 TRSE-00 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 AF-10
ARA-10 EA-07 NEA-10 /132 W
----------064733 251243Z /40
O P 251135Z JUL 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9615
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

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USEEC

FOR ASST SEC KATZ, DEPT PLS PASS TO STR ELECTRONICALLY FOR AMB STRAUSS; ALSO FOR DOC ASST SEC WEIL AND DOL DEP ASSOC UNDERSEC BLACKMAN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAG: ETRD
SUBJ: TEXTILES -- MFA RENEWAL

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF U.S. STATEMENT AT JULY 24 SESSION OF GATT TEXTILES COMMITTEE: BEGIN TEXT.

THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN

THE VARIOUS DELEGATIONS REPRESENTED HERE TODAY HAVE HELD AN INTENSIVE AND INVOLVED SERIES OF DISCUSSIONS AND MEETINGS IN RESPONSE TO YOUR REQUEST THAT WE CONSULT AMONG OURSELVES AS TO HOW WE COULD BEST REACH AGREEMENT ON THE ISSUES PUT FORTH DURING
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THE TEXTILES COMMITTEE MEETINGS OF JULY 5, 6 AND 7. THERE HAVE BEEN DIFFERENCES OF OPINION, SOMETIMES MAJOR, ON A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS, BUT, WITH VERY FEW EXCEPTIONS, IT HAS BEEN POSSIBLE TO DISCUSS THE REASONS FOR THESE DIFFERENCES INASMUCH AS ALL OF US, I BELIEVE, WANT THIS MFA EXTENDED.

THE PAPER WHICH IS CIRCULATED AT OUR REQUEST IS THE RESULT

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OF JUST SUCH AN EFFORT TO BRIDGE GAPS. IT WAS PREPARED WORKING ON THE BASIS OF ARRIVING AT CONSENSUS BETWEEN THE NINE MEMBERS OF A WORKING GROUP, ALL OF WHOM WORKED HARD AND SHOWED CREATIVITY, INGENUITY, AND WILLINGNESS TO MOVE OFF EARLIER POSITIONS IN A SERIOUS EFFORT TO ACHIEVE MUTUALLY AGREEABLE SOLUTIONS.

I REQUESTED THAT THE PAPER BE CIRCULATED IN MY UNSOUGHT CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE INFORMAL WORKING GROUP, AND WITH NO ADMISSION OF PATERNITY BEYOND THAT. HOWEVER, THE UNITED STATES FULLY SUBSCRIBES TO THAT PAPER AND IS PREPARED TO SIGN A PROTOCOL EXTENDING THE MFA IN ITS PRESENT FORM ON THE BASIS OF THAT PAPER.

IT IS OUR CONVICTION, MR. CHAIRMAN, THAT UNLESS WE HERE ACT AFFIRMATIVELY NOW--TODAY-- THE ARRANGEMENT WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY LAPSE AT THE END OF THIS YEAR. THIS CONVICTION HAS BEEN THE MOTIVE FORCE BEHIND MY DELEGATION'S EXHAUSTIVE EFFORTS TO FIND COMMON GROUND FOR AGREEMENT ON MFA EXTENSION. I SUBMIT THAT FAILURE HERE WILL RESULT IN A CALAMITOUS SITUATION, BOTH FOR EXPORTING AND FOR IMPORTING PARTICIPANTS, LARGE AND SMALL. THE FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH WE HAVE ENGAGED IN TRADE, AND THE STANDARDS WHICH WE HAVE APPLIED TO REGULATE THAT TRADE, TO PROMOTE ITS ORDERLY EXPANSION WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY AVOIDING DISRUPTION IN MARKETS AND PRODUCTIONS, WOULD DISAPPEAR. THE THREATENING FORCES OF EXTREME PROTECTIONISM WOULD BE ENORMOUSLY STRENGTHENED BY THE DEMISE OF THE ARRANGEMENT; ITS CONTINUED EXISTENCE,
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IMPERFECT AS IT IS, IS OUR BEST AND PERHAPS ONLY GUARANTEE OF FAIR AND EQUITABLE TEXTILE TRADE. IF IT SHOULD NOT BE EXTENDED, THE IMPACT WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY BE FELT IN OTHER AREAS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

HOWEVER, AN MFA WHICH DOES NOT COVER A TRULY SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF WORLD TRADE IN TEXTILES IS NOT WORTHWHILE; NOR WOULD AN MFA WHICH DOES NOT INCLUDE AMONG ITS PARTICIPANTS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT EXPORTERS AND IMPORTERS BE HELPFUL. IN PLAIN TERMS, AN MFA WITHOUT THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY MEANS THERE IS NO MFA.

CERTAIN ELEMENTS OF THE PAPER WHICH WE HAVE CIRCULATED HAVE BEEN QUESTIONED, PARTICULARLY PARAGRAPH 5. WE BELIEVE, AS WE UNDERSTAND AT LEAST SOME OTHER PARTICIPANTS BELIEVE, THAT PARAGRAPH 5 SIMPLY REAFFIRMS -- I REPEAT -- REAFFIRMS THE POSSIBILITIES ALREADY EXISTING WITHIN THE MFA.

HENCE, MR. CHAIRMAN, I REQUEST THAT A PROTOCOL FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE MFA IN ITS PRESENT FORM BE OPENED AS FORM DECEMBER 15, 1977 SUBJECT TO THE UNDERSTANDINGS REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ARRANGEMENT AS SET FORTH IN COM.TEX/W/44 OF JULY 24, 1977.
END TEXT. VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, POLICIES, TEXTILES, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GENEVA06212
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: GENEVA USEEC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770724/aaaaauff.tel
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1762918
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TEXTILES -- MFA RENEWAL FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF U.S. STATEMENT AT JULY 24 SESSION OF GATT TEXTILES COMMITTEE: BEGIN TEXT.
TAGS: ETRD, US, GATT
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/48d38264-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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